

MEMORANDUM

TO: Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project
Advisory Group and Interested Parties

FROM: John Pandiani
Lucille Schacht

DATE: May 28, 1999

RE: Arrest Rates for Substance Abuse Clients

Over the past two weeks, we have distributed information on the 1997 arrest rates for people who had been served by CRT and Adult Mental Health Outpatient Programs in Vermont during 1996. This week we are adding comparable information for people who had been served by Substance Abuse Programs at Community Mental Health Centers in Vermont during 1996. The first attached sheet presents information on arrest rates for substance abuse clients in the same format as was used for CRT and Adult Outpatient clients during the past two weeks. The second sheet presents a comparison of the results for the three programs. All of these analyses are based on probabilistic estimation of the overlap between the data set with 1997 arrests that was obtained from the Vermont Center for Justice Research and the data set with 1996 community mental health clients that is maintained by DDMHS.

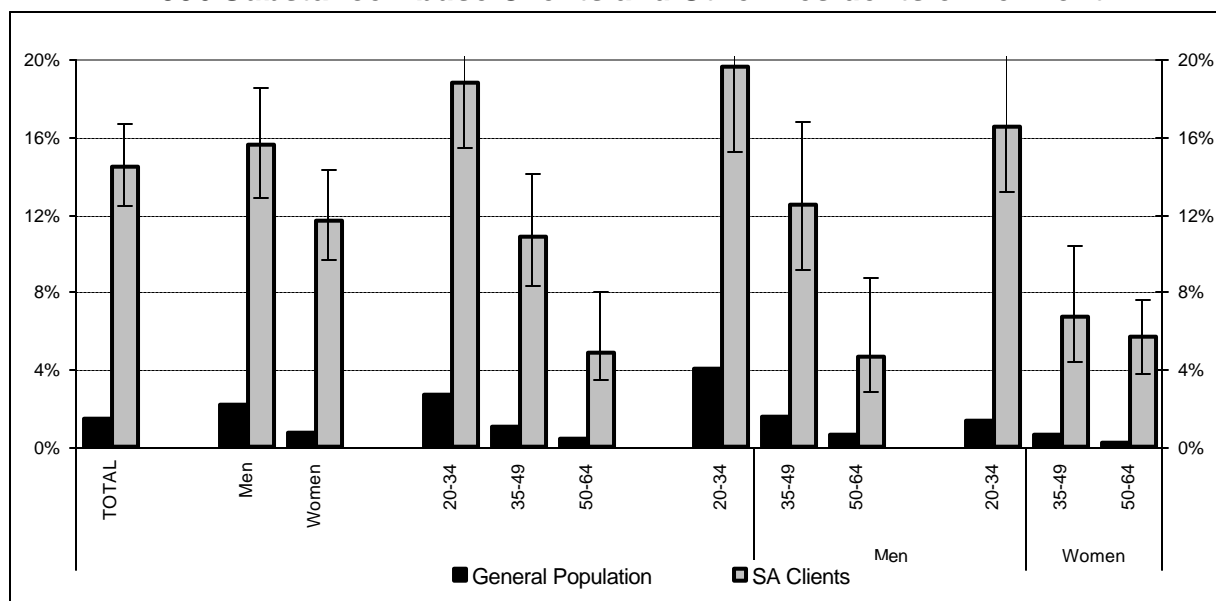
The overall arrest rates for people served by the Substance Abuse programs were substantially higher than the arrest rates for the other two programs (almost 15% compared to less than 8% for Adult Outpatient, and less than 7% for CRT). This difference was evident for both men and women, and people in all three age groups.

Overall, people who had been served by the Substance Abuse Programs were almost ten times as likely to be arrested as other residents of Vermont. Men from the Substance Abuse programs were almost 7 times as likely as other men to be arrested, and women were more than 15 times as likely to be arrested. Young men who had been served by the Substance Abuse Programs had the lowest elevated risk; they were less than 5 times as likely as other young men to be arrested. Older women who had been served by the Substance Abuse Programs had the highest elevated risk; they were more than 30 times as likely as other older women to be arrested.

We will appreciate any comments, questions, and/or suggestions for further analysis that you may have. Please call (802-241-2638) or e-mail to jpandiani@ddmhs.state.vt.us.

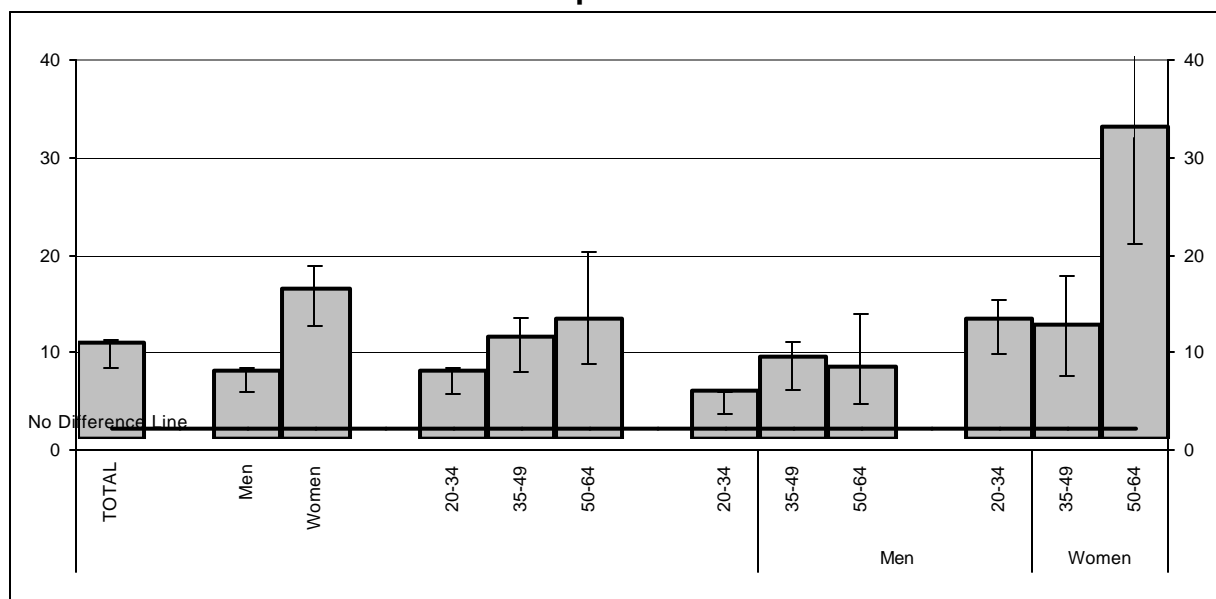
1997 ARREST RATES

1996 Substance Abuse Clients and Other Residents of Vermont



ELEVATED RISK OF ARREST

Substance Abuse Clients Compared to Other Residents of Vermont



	Total		Men		Women		Age 20-34		Age 35-49		Age 50-64	
SA %	14.4%	(12%-17%)	15.5%	(13%-19%)	11.6%	(10%-14%)	18.7%	(15%-22%)	10.9%	(8%-14%)	4.9%	(3%-8%)
Other Residents %	1.5%		2.2%		0.8%		2.7%		1.0%		0.4%	
Elevated Risk	9.8	(8.5-11.4)	7.1	(5.9-8.4)	15.4	(12.8-18.9)	7.0	(5.8-8.3)	10.4	(8-13.5)	12.3	(8.8-20.3)

	Men						Women					
	Age 20-34		Age 35-49		Age 50-64		Age 20-34		Age 35-49		Age 50-64	
SA %	19.6%	(15%-24%)	12.5%	(9%-17%)	4.6%	(3%-9%)	16.5%	(13%-21%)	6.7%	(4%-10%)	5.7%	(4%-8%)
Other Residents %	4.1%		1.5%		0.6%		1.3%		0.6%		0.2%	
Elevated Risk	4.8	(3.8-6)	8.3	(6.1-11.2)	7.4	(4.7-14)	12.3	(9.8-15.5)	11.6	(7.7-17.9)	32.0	(21.2-42.7)

Information on clients assigned to Substance Abuse programs during 1996 from the DDMHS quarterly service report database. Information on people arrested during 1997 from the Center for Justice Research database. The overlap between these two databases was measured using Probabilistic Population Estimation. Point estimates and 95% confidence intervals are provided for all probabilistic estimates. An elevated risk of 1 would indicate no difference in arrest rates for clients of Substance Abuse programs and other residents of Vermont. An elevated risk of 5 would indicate that Substance Abuse clients are 5 times as likely as other residents to have been arrested.

1997 ARREST RATES

For the General Population and 1996 Community Rehabilitation & Treatment, Adult Outpatient, and Substance Abuse Program Clients

